



RECEIVED

2020 FEB -3 P 3:11

January 27, 2020

Postal Regulatory Commission
901 New York Avenue NW
Suite 200
Washington, DC 20268

POSTAL REGULATORY
COMMISSION

Dear Commissioners,

On behalf of We Raise Foundation and the thousands of men, women, and children served through our grantee partners across the United States, I am writing to urge you to reconsider your proposal (Docket RM2017-3) that would **significantly** increase postage rates in the coming years. These potential increases would have a negative impact on We Raise Foundation's ability to carry out our mission and will not reform the United States Postal Service.

For over 100 years, direct mail has been a crucial component of We Raise Foundation's work. In our early years, the distribution of Christmas Seals to donors throughout the country helped to fund our fight against one of the day's most pressing issues – tuberculosis. Today, we continue to support organizations taking on the most challenging issues facing our communities – poverty, violence, and inequality. Last year, nearly 28,000 men, women, and children benefitted from the work of our grantee partners and their programs.

Direct mail continues to be the single largest source of income to our organization. We Raise is simply unable to increase our budget to keep pace with postage increases that could go up by as much as 40% in the next five years. Therefore, we will be forced to decrease both the number of mailings per year and quantity mailed. This reduction will lead to less revenue and thus reduce the amount We Raise Foundation is able to grant to organizations passionately fighting poverty, violence, and inequality in their communities.

This means there will be fewer safe places for our children caught in the violence of their neighborhoods; and fewer ex-offenders successfully transitioning back into society; and fewer job training opportunities for individuals experiencing homelessness; and fewer students finishing high school and planning for a brighter future.

We Raise Foundation strongly urges the Postal Regulatory Commission to reconsider its proposal. Thank you for your consideration.

Paul Miles
President & CEO
We Raise Foundation